

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT M 00806 140803Z

15

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 EUR-12 /073 W

----- 062238

O R 120635Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 773

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BERN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0806

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PP

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR U.S. STATEMENT ON BOUGAINVILLE

REF: A. STATE 185962; B. PORT MORESBY 766

C. PORT MORESBY 876

1. GPNG HAS ASKED US TO ISSUE PRESS STATEMENT RE BOUGAINVILLE. ASKED THAT IT INCLUDE STATEMENT THAT WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF RUMORS CIRCULATING IN BOUGAINVILLE THAT U.S. (ALONG WITH FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND SWITZERLAND) IS ABOUT TO RECOGNIZE AN INDEPENDENT BOUGAINVILLE AND WISH TO STATE THAT THERE IS NO SUBSTANCE IN THESE RUMORS.

2. GPNG WOULD LIKE TO HAVE OUR STATEMENT ISSUED OVER WEEKEND EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE AUGUST 18. GPNG HAS OBTAINED PERMISSION FROM FRG TO ISSUE STATEMENT DENYING THAT FRG WILL RECOGNIZE BOUGAINVILLE. HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION FROM SWITZERLAND BUT HAS NOT YET RECEIVED REPLY. GPNG HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH NEIGHBORING PACIFIC COUNTRIES (FIJI, NAURU, ETC.) THAT THEY WILL MAKE SIMILAR ANNOUNCEMENTS LATER IN WEEK. PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM MADE STRONG STATEMENT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PORT M 00806 140803Z

AUGUST 11 SUPPORTING UNIFIED PNG AND STATING THAT

BOUGAINVILLE'S DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE WOULD BE ILLEGAL.

3. WE PROPOSE STATEMENT ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: "THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT RUMORS ARE CIRCULATING IN BOUGAINVILLE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE UNITED STATES (ALONG WITH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND SWITZERLAND) IS ABOUT TO RECOGNIZE AN INDEPENDENT BOUGAINVILLE. THERE IS NO SUBSTANCE TO THIS RUMOR. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DOES NOT SUPPORT SECESSIONIST MOVEMENTS IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA. THE UNITED STATES LOOKS FORWARD TO THE ENTRY OF PNG INTO THE COMMUNITY OF INDEPENDENT NATIONS, AND TO A FRIENDLY AND PRODUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES."

4. SOMARE WAS IN CANBERRA WHEN I ARRIVED AND UPON HIS RETURN TO PNG HE WAS INSTRUCTED BY PHYSICIAN TO TAKE BED REST HENCE I HAVE NOT SEEN HIM. ABOVE REQUEST WAS CHanneled THROUGH CONROY, DFRT, ON BEHALF OF SIAGURU WITH WHOM I HAVE APPOINTMENT AUGUST 15. PRESUMABLY TIME PRESSURE LED TO USE OF CONROY TO CONVEY REQUEST, AS I ALREADY HAD APPOINTMENT TO SEE HIM ON ANOTHER SUBJECT.

5. COMMENT: I BELIEVE WE SHOULD MAKE STATEMENT AND STRONGLY URGE DEPARTMENT TO APPROVE SOMETHING ALONG LINES OF PARA 4. IT WILL BE VERY CONSPICUOUS IF FRG (AND PROBABLY SWITZERLAND) ARE QUOTED AS DENYING RUMORS, BUT WE ARE SILENT. GPNG HAS BEEN APPREHENSIVE ABOUT ALLEGED CIA SUPPORT OF BOUGAINVILLE SEPARATISM (REF C), AND BELIEVE WE SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EASE SUCH SUSPICION.

6. GPNG IS GIVING IMPRESSION OF BEING VERY RELAXED ABOUT BOUGAINVILLE SITUATION, BUT AUSTRALIAN OFFICE (LAVETT) WAS VERY CAUTIOUS WHEN I ASKED HIS VIEWS YESTERDAY. OLMSTED

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, RECOGNITION, SECESSION, PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PORTM00806
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750280-1022
From: PORT MORESBY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750860/aaaacayo.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 185962, 75 PORT MORESBY 766
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <17 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR U.S. STATEMENT ON BOUGAINVILLE
TAGS: PGOV, PP, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006